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Dated: December 1, 2003      Signature:   
(Staci Harris)

Docket No.: HO-P02190US1  
(PATENT)

## IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

In re Patent Application of:  
Nicholas Thomas et al.

Application No.: 10/650,412

Art Unit: N/A

Filed: August 28, 2003

Examiner: Not Yet Assigned

For: MICROFABRICATED APPARATUS FOR  
CELL BASED ASSAYS

### THIRD PRELIMINARY AMENDMENT

MS Non-Fee Amendment  
Commissioner for Patents  
P.O. Box 1450  
Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

Dear Sir:

### INTRODUCTORY COMMENTS

Prior to examination on the merits, please amend the above-identified U.S. patent application as follows:

**Amendments to the Abstract** begin on page 2 of this paper.

**Remarks/Arguments** begin on page 3 of this paper.